



Tantramar Family Resource Centre

Spring 2008
Volume 2
Issue 2

Creating Collaborative Communities

The Tantramar Family Resource Centre and the Greater Moncton United Way are pleased to present: *Creating Collaborative Communities in Southeastern New Brunswick*. This 2 day forum will take place Monday June 2nd and Tuesday June 3rd, 2008 at Mount Allison University in Sackville. The forum is an opportunity for community non-profit and volunteer groups in southeastern New Brunswick to share information and develop networks so that they can collaborate in the best interests of local residents. Participants will share and learn best practices, learn

who is doing what, and will participate in round table discussions on key challenges facing non-profit and voluntary organizations. Keynote speakers include Dr. J. Fraser Mustard, co-author of *The Early Years Study 2: Putting Science into Action* and founder of the Council for Early Child Development (www.councilecd.ca) and the Honourable Claudette Bradshaw, former Minister Responsible for Homelessness and leader of the New Brunswick Government's Non-Profit Task Force. For more information contact Debbie McInnis at the United Way 858-8600.

Inside this issue:

- Creating Collaborative Communities
- Early Childhood and Parenting Centre
- Prenatal classes taking place in Tantramar

Get Ready for the TFRC's 2nd Annual Giant Spring Yard Sale!

Once again the TFRC will be organizing a giant spring yard sale. Last year's spring and fall sales raised over \$1,400 while helping off campus Mount A students to keep their unneeded items from ending up in the garbage. Students will be able to drop off unneeded items at the Civic Centre between April 17 and May 2. Arrangement for pick up of items may be possible as well. The yard sale will take place Saturday, May 3, 2008 from 9am to 1pm at the Civic Centre. Come by for some great deals and rare finds while supporting the TFRC. Call Sheelagh Callaghan at 536-0946 for more information. Mount A students can contact Sheelagh as well for drop off times and pick up information.



Upcoming Events:

- Giant Spring Yard Sale
May 3/08
- Creating Collaborative Communities
June 2-3/08

A Special Thank You to the Campbell-Verduyn Family



The Board of Directors would like to thank Dr. Robert Campbell and Dr. Christi Verduyn for their generous donation. This donation will enable a variety of programs to be offered to children and their families in the Tantramar area.

Seen here are Tanya Hess, Robert Campbell, Christi Verduyn, and Amanda Marlin-McLellan



Early Childhood Development and Parenting Centre in the Works for Tantramar



Playschool Inc. is taking the lead in establishing an early child development and parenting centre in the Tantramar region. The 35-year old parent co-operative is seeking to branch out from its traditional focus on 3 and 4 year old pre-school programming to respond to family needs in our area. Playschool and the TFRC have developed good working relationships with School District 2 and the Council for Early Child Development (CECD). Preliminary discussions have been held with various local stakeholders in the area including school and child care centre

representatives, as well as other service providers. The model Playschool and the TFRC are pursuing is based on the research and findings of the CECD. For more information, please go to www.CouncilECD.ca. The Early Child Development Committee is currently planning a 2-day local leaders retreat to spearhead discussions to identify the priorities of an early child development and parenting centre in Sackville. If you are interested in learning more about local efforts or want to get involved in this exciting opportunity, please contact Sharon Hachey (sharon.hachey@eastlink.ca) or Tracey Wade (trwade@chignectogroup.com).

Families Enjoy Unique Soup Tasting and Art Auction Fundraiser

The TFRC held its first annual Art of Soup Fundraiser on March 8 at the Sackville Curling Club. The event combined soup tasting with a silent auction of art donated by local students at Salem Elementary, Marshview Middle School and Tantramar High School. Community members who attended had a wonderful time chatting with friends while enjoying a variety of unique soups such as Creamy Roasted Garlic, Mulligatawny, and Hungarian Goulash. The TFRC Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to gratefully acknowledge the many volunteers who worked to make this event a success. They would also like to thank the local restaurants and food suppliers who donated soup including the Bridge Street Café, Olive Branch, Schnitzel House, Marshlands Inn, Pattersons, Pizza Delight, Bonté Foods, Aramark, and the President's Cottage. Also available were soups provided by community members Norma Stewart, Margaret Ann Galbraith and Janine O'Reilly for the Amateur Chef Cook-off. A big thank you also goes out to the teachers and students who donated artwork. Thank you everyone!



Photo Credit: Amanda Marlin-McLellan



Photo Credit: Sheelagh Callaghan

Have you got some ideas for family programs and activities you'd like to see in Tantramar?

What's missing for families in Dorchester, Sackville, Midgic, Aulac, Baie Verte, Port Elgin, Murray Corner, and our other communities? Do you have some great ideas? If so, please contact Amanda Marlin-McLellan at 364-0823 or TantramarFCR@canada.com. The TFRC is committed to meeting the needs of all families in the Tantramar area.



VON Healthy Baby and Me Programs are now available in Tantramar



Prenatal Course now running in Tantramar

The Tantramar Family Resource Centre is pleased to partner with VON Canada to offer prenatal programs for parents-to-be. The first offering of the course started on March 25, 2008 with three sets of parents attending. This is the first time, since the fall of 2005, that a prenatal course has been offered in the Tantramar area. Facilitator, Maria DesRoches, is very pleased to be offering the course in Tantramar. The course will be offered throughout the year as demand requires. The Sackville Memorial Hospital has kindly offered space for the first course. Locations of future courses will be dependent on where in Tantramar the parents-to-be live. To register for future prenatal courses, call VON Healthy Baby and Me, Maria DesRoches, 389-2229(BABY). The program is available free of charge to parents of all ages.



Are you a parent of a child less than one year of age? Parent Support Program, Rock'N'Talk now available in Tantramar

VON Canada, Healthy Baby and Me, also offers an eight week program where parent or parents and baby meet to discuss various topics important to parents of a child less than one year of age. Topics include: Life with baby, growth & safety, getting back into shape for Mom and feeding your baby. The course will be offered throughout the year as demand requires. The location of each eight week course will be dependent on where in Tantramar the parents live. To express your interest in the Rock'n'Talk program, call VON Healthy Baby and Me, Maria DesRoches, 389-2229(BABY). The program is available free of charge to parents of all ages. Childcare may be available for older siblings accompanying the parents and baby.

Funding for StorySacs in Sackville

The TFRC was recently awarded a grant of \$1000 from the Town of Sackville to develop StorySacs which are bags that promote enriched reading experiences for children and their caregivers. For more information or to volunteer with this exciting project, contact Sharon Hachey at 536-0307.

Would you like to volunteer with the TFRC?

The TFRC has many fun and exciting opportunities. We are looking for the following volunteers:

- The Healthy Living Committee needs people to promote the prenatal and parent support program.
- The Fundraising Committee needs helpers, sorters, sales people, etc. at the Giant Spring Yard Sale.
- The Creating Collaborative Communities Forum is looking for information booths from local volunteer and non-profit organizations. A great way to advertise your services!
- We are also looking for members at large from Dorchester, Port Elgin and outlying communities.

If you would like to help out, contact Amanda Marlin-McLellan at 364-0823 or TantramarFRC@canada.com for more information.





Wondering how you can support the TFRC?



The TFRC greatly appreciates all monetary donations. Charitable tax receipts can be issued upon request. Donations may be made to specific programs or activities. Cheques made payable to the Tantramar Family Resource Centre may be mailed to the address below. For donation forms and more information about support options, contact President and Treasurer Tanya Hess at 536-0117.

TFRC Board of Directors

President	Tanya Hess	536-0117
Vice President	Indu Varma	536-1636
Secretary	Amanda Marlin-McLellan	364-0823
Treasurer	Tanya Hess	536-0117
Fundraising	Sheelagh Callaghan	536-0946
Communications	Amanda Marlin-McLellan	364-2394
Early Child Development and Literacy	Sharon Hachey & Tracey Wade	536-0307 536-0493
Healthy Living	Susan Kastuk-Ridlington	536-8102
Youth Outreach	Pronoti Majithia	536-0414



Tantramar
Family
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Centre

Contact the TFRC at
P.O. Box 6335
Sackville, NB, E4L 1G6
TantramarFRC@canada.com

The TFRC's Vision

The Tantramar Family Resource Centre works toward developing Tantramar as a safe, secure and healthy community where all citizens have access to social services, where their most basic needs are always met, and where reasonable quality of life is assured.

Description of TFRC Committees

The **Fundraising** committee's goal is to raise funds through a combination of charitable grants, gift giving, and successful proposals to government agencies, private foundations, service clubs and others to cover ongoing operational costs of running TRFC programs including paying at least one staff member on a full-time basis to coordinate the Centre activities.

The **Communications** committee's goal is that the Tantramar Family Resource Centre will continue to keep the public informed of all events, programs and updates through timely press releases to major local newspapers, information brochures, a newsletter and pamphlets distributed to local stores, churches, schools (as allowed), early learning and child care centres, or other areas we feel there would be an interest and a need for our services.

The **Early Childhood Development and Literacy** committee of the TFRC works to enhance the accessibility of quality, universal, and developmental early learning opportunities for all children in the region with a goal of providing a one stop home for a range of services, including parent education and coordination of existing services offered for children and families. Further more it provides literacy support services to existing Literacy programs (CASP, Laubach, Talk With Me) for a range of clients from preschool to elementary, middle, high school and adult learners.

The **Healthy Living** committee's goal is to offer resources (to individuals and other services or programs) and workshops. All opportunities would provide the knowledge and skills to make choices that support overall health and reduce the risk of developing chronic disease.

The **Youth Outreach** program aims to support youth and their families by creating and delivering innovative programs for middle and high school youth. The programs will engage the youth creatively and productively, while giving them a platform to express themselves as members of the Tantramar community.